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SENSITIVE
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DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ARP (JHARRIS); PLEASE PASS TO TREASURY
SECRETARY GEITHNER'S OFFICE; PLEASE PASS TO FEDERAL RESERVE
CHAIRMAN BERNANKE'S OFFICE; ABU DHABI FOR MATT EPSTEIN;
RIYADH FOR AMANDA EDWARDS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ECON](#) [KWBG](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [SOCI](#) [SA](#)
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION OF SECRETARY GEITHNER
AND CHAIRMAN BERNANKE IN 10TH JEDDAH ECONOMIC FORUM (JEF),
FEBRUARY 13-16, 2010

REF: A. JEDDAH 0341
[1](#)B. SCARBOROUGH-EDWARDS EMAIL

[1](#)1. (U) On October 13, Post received an expected (ref A)
letter from Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI)
and Gulf Research Center (GRC) requesting Treasury Secretary
Timothy Geithner and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke's
participation as panelists at the Jeddah Economic Forum (JEF)
February 13-16, 2010. Post is forwarding JEF letter,
brochure/descriptive materials to NEA/ARP desk and to
Treasury reps Epstein and Edwards via e-mail.

BEGIN TEXT OF LETTER:

October 4, 2009

Mr. Martin Quinn
Consul General
Embassy of the United States of America
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Dear Mr. Quinn,

The Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) and the
Gulf Research Center (GRC) is pleased to announce that the
2010 Jeddah Economic Forum entitled "The Global Economy 2020"
will take place from February 13 to 16, 2010, in Jeddah
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Coming at an important time when there are first indicators
that the world economy is gradually coming out of the current
recessionary period, the 10th edition of the Jeddah Economic
Forum will look beyond the current global economic crisis and
focus on the shape and leading characteristics of the next
phase of global growth. As the premier event in the Middle
East, the JEF has in past brought together over 2,000
participants annually with 400 speakers representing over 30
nations including 15 heads of state. In this tradition, the
2010 Forum will serve once again as the ideal platform for
decision-makers, experts, businessmen and academics to
discuss the outlook for the world economy in the next ten
years in the key sectors of banking and finance, energy and
the environment, trade, agriculture, industry, education,
health, and science and technology.

Please find attached an event brochure highlighting the focus

of the 2010 Forum. Please also note the following weblink:
www.jef.org.sa; www.grcevent.net/jef

With the United States playing a leading role in the current deliberations on the future global economic architecture, we would like to inquire about the possibility of the herebelow officials;

H.E. Timothy Geithner, Secretary of the Treasury, participating in this high profile event as a panelist in the session entitled "Global Economic Governance After the Crisis" which is scheduled for Sunday, February 14, 2010 from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon. For further details on this panel, please refer to page 22 of the attached brochure.

H.E. Ben Bernanke, Chairman, Federal Reserve Bank, participating in this high profile event as a panelist in the session entitled "The Way Forward for Reserve Currencies" which is scheduled for Sunday, February 14, 2010 from 13.30 p.m. to 15.30 p.m. For further details on this panel, please refer to page 23 of the attached brochure.

Please note that we are in the process of putting the program together, and at this stage, I would simply be grateful if you check for me the availability of H.E. Timothy Geithner & H.E. Ben Bernanke, participating in the 2010 Jeddah Economic Forum for the dates mentioned above. Please also forward me the relevant contact person and details so that we can follow up directly if necessary.

Thank you very much for your prompt attention and assistance

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in this matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

With highest regards,

Abdulaziz Sager
Chairman
Gulf Research Center

END TEXT.

12. (SBU) ACTION REQUEST: Post requests desk pass letter/brochure to offices of Secretary Geithner and Chairman Bernanke. Post understands that Treasury DepSec may have plans to be in the region this winter. Treasury reps in field will follow up with Secretary Geithner's office.
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